

Sub C7 23/ 3. The system of claim 2 wherein the alarm condition occurs when the first ID does not match the first stored ID.

24/ 4. The system of claim 2 wherein the transceiver module further includes a processor for comparing the first ID to the first stored ID.

Sub. B10 25/ 5. The system of claim 1 wherein the first ID has an associated energy level, the transceiver module indicating an alarm condition by comparing the energy level to a threshold value.

9C7 26/ 6. The system of claim 5 further including a comparator for comparing the energy level to the threshold value.

27/ 7. The system of claim 5 wherein the transceiver module further includes a processor for determining the energy level and evaluating whether the energy level is below the threshold value.

Al Sub. B7 28/ 8. The system of claim 1 further including a second transmitter for transmitting a second ID, the transceiver module receiver receiving the second ID to electronically associate the second transmitter with the transceiver module by generating a second stored ID.

Cont. 531 29/ 9. The system of claim 8 wherein the second transmitter includes a receiver and an alarm, the transceiver module transmitting an alarm signal to the second transmitter receiver upon failure of a preset condition, the second transmitter responding to the alarm signal by activating the alarm.

531 30/ 10. The system of claim 8 wherein the transceiver module activates an alarm when the first and the second transmitters are separated by more than a preset distance.

Sub. B11 31/ 11. The system of claim 1 wherein the transceiver module activates an alarm when the first transmitter is separated from the transceiver module by more than a preset distance.

531 32/ 12. The system of claim 8 wherein the transceiver module activates an alarm only when both the first and the second transmitters are separated from the transceiver module by more than a preset distance.

sub. B12 33-15 The system of claim 1 further including a controller, the transceiver module wirelessly transmitting messages to the controller, the messages including an indication of receipt of the first ID.

53 33-14 The system of claim 13 wherein the controller receives messages from a plurality of transceiver modules, the controller determining a location of the transmitter and the locations of the transceiver modules from the messages.

35-15 The system of claim 14 wherein the controller includes a processor for determining the locations of the transmitter and the transceiver modules.

sub. B13 36-16 The system of claim 1 further including an actuator connected to the transceiver module, the actuator being actuated upon an indication by the transceiver module of an alarm condition.

53 37-17 A method of monitoring objects including the steps of:
transmitting a first ID signal from a first transmitter corresponding to a first object;
receiving the first ID signal at a transceiver module;
associating the first transmitter with the transceiver module by storing a first ID corresponding to the first ID signal;
comparing the first ID signal to the first ID to determine whether a preset condition is satisfied; and

38-18 The method of claim 17 further including the step of:
signaling an alarm when the preset condition is not satisfied.
determining an energy level of the first ID signal, the preset condition including a condition wherein the energy level is greater than or equal to a preset energy level.

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19. The method of claim ³⁷17 further including the steps of:
transmitting a second ID signal from a second transmitter corresponding to a second object;
associating the second transmitter with the first transmitter and the transceiver module by storing a second ID corresponding to the second ID signal; and
comparing the second ID signal to the second ID to determine whether the preset condition is satisfied.

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20. The method of claim ³⁹19 further including the steps of:
receiving at the second transmitter an alarm signal transmitted from the transceiver module when the preset condition is not satisfied; and
activating an alarm indicator at the second transmitter upon receipt of the alarm signal.

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21. The method of claim ³⁷17 wherein the preset condition includes a condition wherein the first transmitter is within a preset distance from the transceiver module.

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22. The method of claim ³⁷17 further including the steps of:
transmitting messages from the transceiver module to a controller, the messages including an indication of receipt by the transceiver module of the first ID signal; and

determining the location of the first transmitter from the messages.

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23. An object monitoring system including:
a plurality of transmitters corresponding to objects to be monitored, the transmitters each transmitting a respective, unique ID;
a plurality of transceiver modules, each transceiver module including a receiver for receiving IDs from the transmitters to associate with the transceiver module the transmitters from which IDs are received by storing IDs corresponding to the received IDs; and